

The Newberry Herald and News.

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TWICE A WEEK, \$1.50 A YEAR

THE SURRENDER OF GOMEZ

A GREAT STEP IN THE PACIFICATION OF CUBA.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban Army, who has all along been holding back against the Reconstruction of Cuba Under United States Military Rule and Demanding Pay for His Troops, Yields to the Arguments of Robert P. Porter.

Remedios, Province of Santa Clara, February 1, via Havana, February 2.—Gen. Maximo Gomez, the commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, placed himself squarely in position today as an active ally of the United States Government in the work of the reconstruction of Cuba.

As a result of the conference which R. P. Porter, the special commissioner of President McKinley, has had with Gen. Gomez the latter cabled to President McKinley this afternoon assuring him of his co-operation in disbanding the Cuban army, and in distributing among the Cuban soldiers the \$3,000,000 appropriated for the purpose of enabling them to return to their homes. Gen. Gomez also telegraphed to Major Gen. Brooke saying he would accept the latter's invitation to go to Havana. The success of Mr. Porter's mission greatly simplifies the returning of the military Cubans to the pursuits of peace.

In view of Gen. Gomez's supposed prior attitude of hostility toward the United States Mr. Porter came here clothed with absolute authority, and the tender of the tender of the \$3,000,000 was practically a verbal ultimatum. Had it not been accepted no more ultimatums would have been made.

Mr. Porter made plain the purpose of the Government and was gratified at the ready response of Gen. Gomez. The conference took place at the house here occupied by the Cuban general as his headquarters since coming to town.

When Mr. Porter arrived here last week he was accompanied by Senor Gonzales Quesada, the special commissioner of the Cuban Junta at Washington; Capt. Campbell, of Gen. Brooke's staff; Lieut. Hanna, of Gen. Wood's staff, and a correspondent of the Associated Press.

The Cuban commander was cordial in greeting Mr. Porter and opened the interview by referring to the change for the better which had taken place in Cuba since he was last here in September. He also laid stress on the fact that some people were asking where was Cuba's promised liberty.

"The answer to this," said Mr. Porter, "is that Cuba now has commercial and industrial liberty and that President McKinley has directed me, in framing the Cuban tariff, to make no discrimination in favor of the United States in the manner that Spain favored herself. Cuba is free today to buy in the cheapest market. People are returning to the pursuits of peace and our military government will give way to the civil government as fast as possible."

Mr. Porter also said that the purpose of the American Government is to lay a firm foundation of noble government for Cuba, to give the Cubans all the liberties they had fought for, and that Gen. Gomez must remember that and more still. For instance, there are 25,000 or 30,000 Spanish soldiers at Cienfuegos, who have not left Cuba, that we had only been a month on the island, and that President McKinley needed and was entitled to the co-operation of all interested in the welfare and future of Cuba, and that he needed the co-operation of Gen. Gomez above all others.

The first problem Mr. Porter then pointed out was the disbandment of the Cuban army and the return of the Cuban soldiers to work. This was the specific mission which had brought Mr. Porter to Remedios, and in which President McKinley expected Gen. Gomez's aid.

The Cuban commander-in-chief replied that he was ready and willing to give the aid required, but asked how he could do so.

To this Mr. Porter replied that President McKinley would be glad

to have him go to Havana and co-operate with Gen. Brooke in disbanding the Cubans and in paying over to a \$3,000,000 appropriated for that purpose.

Gen. Gomez said the amount was too small, but that was not his fault, and he would make it go as far as possible, while likening it to the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

"No man in history," said Mr. Porter, "has done so much with so small resources as you have done. Hence your co-operation with Gen. Brooke will bring good results."

Gen. Gomez especially requested that the money for which Mr. Porter had orders in his pocket should be paid over to Gen. Brooke, and not himself, as he did not want the personal responsibility of keeping it.

The Cuban general then assured Capt. Campbell of his good feelings to Gen. Brooke, and the formal compact was presented to Gomez by Mr. Porter and was assented to by Gen. Gomez.

In brief the compact is as follows: 1. The Cuban officers in each province shall assist the American officers in distributing the funds.

2. That these officers shall at once meet at some convenient point and devise how, when and where the payments are to be made, and arrange any other details.

3. That the sum paid to each man shall not be regarded as part payment of salary or wages due for service rendered, but to facilitate the disbandment of the army, as a relief of suffering, and as an aid in getting the people to work.

4. The Cubans shall surrender their arms to the Cuban Assembly or to its representative.

5. The committee on distribution shall use its best endeavors to distribute it among the population so that all may secure work.

6. That the \$3,000,000 shall be placed subject to the order of Gen. Brooke, and that action in the matter shall be immediate.

Gen. Gomez was tendered a public reception this evening and Mr. Porter was among those present.

GOMEZ'S LETTER TO MCKINLEY.

Remedios, Province of Santa Clara, February 2, via Camaguey.—Immediately after yesterday's conference Gen. Gomez wrote the following letter to President McKinley in Spanish:

"Republic of Cuba, Headquarters of the Army, Remedios, February 1, 1899.—President McKinley, Washington: It has been a great pleasure to me to confer with your commissioner, Mr. Porter, introduced by my friend, Quesada, and I am now aware of and pleased with your wishes. In a short time I shall go to Havana and confer with Gen. Brooke, so that everything will go well. Following your advice, I willingly co-operate in the work of reconstructing Cuba.

"Maximo Gomez, General."

Today Gen. Gomez is preparing for the trip to Havana. The whole attitude of the old fighter is much more cordial than was anticipated by Mr. Porter. He told the latter he was proud to receive the special commissioner of the President, and he is evidently much gratified at the prospect of the early solution of the disbandment problem.

Extreme Weakness

Chronic Diarrhoea for Years—Feet and Ankles Swollen and Blood Was Out of Order—Cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"I was troubled with chronic diarrhoea for eight years and tried everything I was told was good for it, but no medicine did me any good. I kept up all the time but was so weak I could not do anything. If I walked a few hundred yards I would be out of breath. My feet and ankles swelled very badly and I had about given up all hope of ever being well. I read about Hood's Sarsaparilla, and, knowing my blood was out of order, decided to give it a fair trial. I have now taken nine or ten bottles of it and several bottles of Hood's Pills, and I am perfectly well."

Mrs. S. A. WARD, Battleboro, N. C.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the Best—In fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion, 25c.

STRAIT ATTACKS

JUNIOR SENATOR.

THE RETIRING CONGRESSMAN ISSUES AN ADDRESS.

Call McLauren a Trickster—Says He Has Been Treacherous and Unscrupulous—Very Warm Language.

To the people of South Carolina:

Since manifestos, addresses and exposes are in order in South Carolina, I have decided to have a word to say. The star player in the recent performances has been writing his own plays, criticising and damning all others while painting his own part in glowing colors without regard to the truth or the interests of any save himself. I have decided it to be my duty to keep quite no longer while he is allowed weekly to exploit himself and his actions through the leading newspapers of our State. I shall confine myself to a statement of facts that can be fully substantiated by the entire delegation in congress, and, in fact, all who had an opportunity from the inside to observe closely the trend of matters during the last six years. The people of South Carolina have a right to know what is now and what has been going on behind the curtain. And when they have learned all the facts they will be slow to make up their minds.

The address recently issued by Mr. W. A. Neal, it is well known, was not written by him. He was sick at the time and could not judge for himself what the effect would be, nor how despicable it made him appear in the eyes of both friends and foes. It is well known that it was written by John L. McLauren, who hastened down to Columbia from Washington and as hurriedly came away after he had penned this infamous slander, an instrument of apostasy, and induced Neal, poor, sick fellow, to sign it.

Along with other members of the South Carolina delegation in congress, I have been subjected to the treachery and undermining tactics of the junior senator from our State so long that I had almost become used to it and did not expect to have anything more to say during the short period in which I will remain in public life. But there is such an outrageously false accusation against the entire delegation in the Neal-McLauren address that I cannot longer remain silent.

McLauren has his commission as senator until 1903, and he may feel that he can slander us with impunity but I, at least will not submit in silence. McLauren makes Neal charge: "In 1894 I was invited to go to Washington to attend a conference. I was present in Irby's committee room when it was agreed to make John Gary Evans governor of South Carolina. There was only one man who raised his voice against it in protest. I was a witness to the scene when he withdrew in anger from the conference." There was no need for him to go back four years to make an accusation of there being a ring in Washington at the time which was running South Carolina's politics. He made poor Neal sign a falsehood, knowing at the time himself that it was a falsehood, and his only purpose could be to injure the delegation here in the eyes of the people. Now, the facts are these, and I will be sustained in my statement by every member who participated, as well as by Senator Tillman, who was at the meeting mentioned—he being governor then: Irby called a meeting of the delegation without letting us know what he wanted with us. Tillman, Neal and Evans were present. As soon as the meeting opened McLauren mentioned that Keister, then editing the Register, and Bowden, two prominent South Carolinians, then in Washington, ought to be admitted to our council. Irby and McLauren were then not on good terms on account of a scandal involving McLauren, of which I will not speak here, because it is too nauseating, and they began to quarrel, Irby declaring that he would not have anything to do with a Populist, and before anything was done, or the

purpose for which we had been brought together mentioned, McLauren angrily left the room, saying he would "stand by his friends."

Matters having assumed this shape, Latimer, Talbert and myself members of the house, also left, and there was not one word said about running John Gary Evans for Governor. McLauren has become so notorious himself for holding conferences and planning political deals, and is by nature such a trickster and conspirator, that I presume he feels called upon to charge such things to others. He was in the "Forty-movement," which has for its object the destruction of the Reform party. He begged Latimer, Talbert and myself to join him in a Populist manifesto to the people of the State in 1894, saying that the people would rally behind that banner if we would join him. He denied this when he was running for the senate, but I can prove it by both the gentlemen referred to. He cursed and damned the dispensary law during the Darlington riot, and wrote the "Dear Appelt letter" giving Senator Tillman the "Joub stab," yet when Tillman came here afterwards he went to him and begged him not to fight him in his congressional district for congress, and disclaimed intending anything but friendship for him. He promised Bowden that he would run for governor in 1898 and encouraged Bowden to run for congress. He made Tom Reed believe he was in sympathy with the Republican party and thus obtained his position on the ways and means committee above older and abler members of the house. He has been in a way, trying to deliver the goods, and his trifling speech was a part delivery. His fawning around the president last summer and declaration that McKinley was the "most popular President since Lincoln and ought to be re-nominated by acclamation" in another part. All these things go to prove his absolute unreliability and his unscrupulous ambition. He is a Democrat only because he believes that is the way to gratify his ambition.

I would go on and give instance after instance of his treachery to his colleagues, and of his trickery, but this is enough for installment. Let him dispute what I have said thus far and I will give him some more, and what is more to the purpose, let the people know more fully what manner of man it is they have sent to the United States Senate in the place of the noble Joseph H. Earle.

Very respectfully,
T. J. STRAIT.
Washington, D. C. Feb. 1, 1899.

Programme of Teacher's Association, February 11, 1899.

The Philosophy of Numbers—Prof. W. K. Sligh.

Geography and History Taught Together—Prof. R. M. Monts.

Pestalozzi—President Geo. B. Cromer.

What nobler, better ambition can a young couple have than to live loving, helpful lives, and then in green old age, look back over a life that has been mutually self-sacrificing, useful and successful? The one great stumbling block that stands between most married couples and this ideal married career is ill-health. If both husband and wife would take proper care of their health, there would be more hale, hearty and happy old people in the world. If, when a man or woman is young, he or she gives up a healthy, hearty life, he will resort to Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, the chances are that he will avoid the big and fatal illnesses. This great career-giver gives a man a healthy, hearty life, facilitates the flow of digestive juices, invigorates the liver, purifies and enriches the blood and builds firm, muscular, healthy flesh and bone.

It is an old saying that women are hard to kill. There is some truth in this, as far as the majority of illnesses are concerned. There is one class of disorders, however, that quickly undermine any woman's general health. No woman can retain her strength who suffers from weakness and disease of the delicate and important organs that make wifehood and motherhood possible. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is an unfailing cure for all disorders of this description. It acts directly on the sensitive organs concerned, in a natural, soothing way. It makes them strong, healthy and vigorous. It prepares them to bear the burdens of maternity. It is the greatest of nerve-tonics. The woman who uses it will bear healthy, happy children, and live to a ripe old age.

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HERO OF "THE CRATER."

Captain Geo. B. Lake, of Edgfield Vividly Describes the Explosion and the Campaign that Followed.

(News and Courier.)

The evening before the mine was sprung, or possibly two evenings before, Colonel David Fleming, in command of the Twenty-second South Carolina regiment—I don't know whether by command of General Stephen Elliott or not—ordered me to move my company "Company B," Twenty-second South Carolina, into the rear line, immediately in rear of Pegram's four guns. I had in my company one officer, Lieutenant W. J. Lake, of Newberry, S. C., and thirty-four enlisted men. This rear line was so constructed that I could fire over Pegram's men on the attacking enemy.

The enemy in our front had two lines of works. He had more men in his line nearest our works than we had in his front. From this nearest line he tunneled to and under Pegram's salient, and deposited in a magazine prepared for it not less than four tons of powder, some of their officers say it was six tons. We knew the enemy were mining and we sunk a shaft on each side of the four gun battery, ten feet or more deep, and then extended the tunnel some distance to our front. We were on a high hill, however, and the enemy 510 feet in our front, where they began their work, consequently their mine was far under the shaft we sunk. At night when everything was still, we could hear the enemy's miners at work. While war means kill, the idea of being blown into eternity without any warning was anything but pleasant.

THAT TERRIBLE SATURDAY MORNING.

On that terrible Saturday morning, July 30, 1864, before day had yet dawned, after the enemy had massed a large number of troops in front of our guns, the fuse which was to ignite the mine was fired. The enemy waited fully an hour, but there was one explanation, the fuse had gone out. A brave Federal officer, whose name I do not know, volunteered to enter the tunnel and fire it again, which he did.

A minute later there was a report which was heard for miles, and the earth trembled for miles around. A crater one hundred and thirty feet long, ninety-seven feet in breadth and thirty feet deep, was blown out. Of the brave artillery company, 22 officers and men were killed and wounded, most of them killed. Hundreds of tons of earth was thrown back on the rear line in which my command was.

A WHOLE COMPANY BURNED.

Here was the greatest loss suffered by any command on either side in the war, myself, my only lieutenant, W. J. Lake, and thirty-four enlisted men were all buried, and of that little band thirty-one were killed. Lieutenant Lake and myself and three enlisted men were taken out of the ground two hours after the explosion by some brave New Yorkers. These men worked like beavers a portion of the time under perpetual fire.

BURIED THIRTY FEET DEEP.

Colonel Dave Fleming and his adjutant, Dick Quattlebaum, were also in the rear line only a few feet to my left, and were buried thirty feet deep; their bodies are still there. I do not know how many of the Federal troops stormed the works, but I do know the Confederates captured from them nineteen flags. The attacking columns were composed of white men and negroes; sober men and men who were drunk; brave men and cowards.

One of the latter was an officer high in command. I have lost his name, if I ever knew it. He asked me how many lines of works we had between the crater and Petersburg, when I replied "Three." He asked me if they were all manned. I said "Yes." He then said: "Don't you know that I know you are telling a d-d lie?" I said to him: "Don't you know that I am not going to give you information that will be of

any service to you?" He then threatened to have me shot, and I believe but that for the interference of a Federal officer he would have done so.

DEATH TO ADVANCE AND DEATH TO RETREAT.

I had just seen several of our officers and men killed with bayonets after they had surrendered, when the enemy, who had gone through the crater towards Petersburg, had been repulsed, and fell back in the crater for protection. There was not room in the crater for another man. It was death to go forward or death to retreat to their own lines. It is said there were three thousand Yankees in and around the crater, besides those in portions of our works adjacent thereto.

Then the Coshara mortars of the brave Major Haskell and other commanders of batteries turned loose their shells on the crater. The firing was rapid and accurate. Some of these mortars were brought up as near as fifty yards to the crater. Such a scene has never before nor never will be witnessed again. The Yankees at the same time were using one hundred and forty pieces of cannon against our works occupied by Confederate troops.

Elliott's brigade in the day's fight lost 278 officers and men. Major General B. R. Johnson's division, Elliott's brigade included, lost in the day, 932 officers and men. This was the most of the Confederate loss.

FEDERAL TOTAL LOSS OVER 5,000.

While the enemy acknowledged a loss of from five to six thousand men—and that I am sure is far below their real loss—I make another quotation from Major-General B. R. Johnson's official report:

"It is believed that for each buried companion they have taken a tenfold vengeance on the enemy, and have taught them a lesson that will be remembered as long as the history of our wrongs and this great revolution endures."

Virginians, Georgians, North Carolinians, South Carolinians, and others who may have fought at the crater, none of you have the right to claim deeds of more conspicuous daring over your Confederate brethren engaged that day. Every man acted well his part.

What about the four cannons blown up? you ask. One piece fell about half way between the opposing armies, another fell in front of our lines, not so near, however, to the enemy, a third was thrown from the carriage and was standing on end, half buried in the ground inside the crater, the fourth was still attached to the carriage, but turned bottom side up, the wheels in the air, and turned against our own men when the enemy captured it. That day, however, they all fell into the hands of the Confederates except the one thrown so near the enemy's works, and in time we regained that also.

CAPTAIN LAKE A PRISONER.

Before the fighting was over the Yankee officer who could curse a prisoner so gallantly ordered two soldiers to take charge and carry me to their lines, no doubt believing that the Confederates would succeed in recapturing the crater. We had to cross a plain 510 feet wide that was being raked by rifle balls, cannon shot and shell, grape and canister. It was not a very inviting place to go, but still not a great deal worse than Haskell's mortar shells that were raining in the center. I had the pleasure of seeing one of my guards die. The other conducted me safely to General Patrick's headquarters. Patrick was the Yankee provost marshal.

When I was placed under guard near his quarters he sent a staff officer to the front to learn the result of the battle.

After a short absence he galloped up to General Patrick and yelled out "We have whipped them!"

I awoke said: "I want no foolishness, sir!"

The staff officer then said: "General, if you want the truth, they have whipped us like hell."

GEORGE B. LAKE.

OUR SOLDIER BOYS IN CUBA

THE 20 REGIMENT DOING ONLY POLICE AND GUARD DUTY.

The People of the Island, Certainly Those Around Camp Columbia, Seem Quietly Disposed and are, as a Rule, Dirty and Good-for-nothing.

Headquarters 2d South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, Camp Columbia, Remedios, Cuba, Thursday, January 26.—The greater part of the 2d South Carolina is still in camp doing little else than police and guard duty. In fact, that is all there is to do. Even in doing provost duty the men merely walk their posts in the cities and towns and along the country road, occasionally stopping some soldier to see if he has a pass. The provosts never have to bother with the civilians, only looking out for their fellow boys in blue.

The people of the island seem quietly disposed, and to the ordinary observer there seems to be no reason whatever for holding the soldiers over here. It might be, however, to intimidate the Cubans, and thus keep them from committing depredations that would occur were the troops not over here.

For the most part the natives seem quietly disposed, indolent, and, to a degree immoral and filthy. The Government gives employment to the men, but they do very little work and seem to care nothing for the morrow. They are improvident and worthless, and apparently unfit even for the simplest, lowest kinds of work. It may be the climate that causes them to dislike work, but the average Southern farm hand can do more work in one day than the average laboring Cuban does in three or four. Of course, the men at work here in camp and along the country roads may not be fair specimens of Cubans, but as they are the only ones the soldiers see, we must draw our conclusions from our observation of them.

DIRTY PEOPLE AND FILTHY HOUSES.

The houses are all more or less filthy, except among the higher classes, and the women and children are apparently none the less so. They, up to about 8 or 10 years of age, go about clothed only in their sunny smiles, while the costumes of the women are not at all inviting to the aesthetic tastes.

Some time ago I wrote concerning the custom here of disinterring the bones of deceased Cubans and placing them in a receptacle made for them in every cemetery hereabouts.

DESPECRATING CUBAN CEMETERIES.

The soldiers have been purloining the skulls from these cemeteries and breaking into the glass cases at the heads of graves and taking therefrom the wax figures, flowers, etc., and committing other depredations. This nuisance has assumed such proportions that the natives were forced to complain to the military authorities to have it stopped. This has been ordered, but the following order will show that the "big guys" care little for the sacredness of the cemetery, but more for the health of the soldiers:

Headquarters 1st Division, 7th Army Corps, Camp Columbia, Havana, Cuba, January 25, 1899.—General Orders No. 8: It having been reported that soldiers are desecrating the cemeteries in the vicinity of the